

Borough Council Regular Meeting March 13, 2018

The regular meeting of Windber Borough Council was called to order by Windber Borough Council Vice President, James Spinosa at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance.

The following Council Members were present: John Holden, Pete LaMonaca, Douglas Ledney, Ron Mash, Joe Pallo and James Spinosa. Mike Bryan was absent. Jim Furmanchik, Borough Manager was absent. Mayor, Scott Penrod and Attorney, Joseph Green were present.

Approval Minutes A motion was made by Mr. Mash and seconded by Mr. Pallo to approve the Minutes of February 27, 2018 meeting. One absent, Mr. Bryan. Motion carried.

Correspondence

1. Minutes of the Windber Municipal Authority's December 19th Meeting.
2. PA Municipal Code Alliance Report.

Mr. Spinosa said that Anson Bloom who was just hired by council to be the Codes Enforcement Officer is also the Deputy Fire Chief and Emergency Management Coordinator. Anson carries all of his technical equipment in his personal vehicle.

Mr. Spinosa said Mr. Bloom has asked to be able to use his personal vehicle for daily borough business. He does not expect mileage to be paid because he is given a tax credit due to his involvement as an EMT and Fire Training Officer. There is also no issue with liability because he has a rider on his insurance policy for use for his vehicle for business.

In regards to the vehicle being identified he has agreed to put magnetic signs on the doors while he is working for the borough to identify him. The cost would be \$80 for two signs. Being that the borough manager also visits property maintenance issues, job sites and conducts site visits with residents, this would streamline operations as well. The other reason he wants to do all this is to tie everything together with emergency management and the codes.

A motion was made by Mr. Holden and seconded by Mr. LaMonaca to approve Anson Bloom to use his own personal vehicle for his job as a codes enforcement officer for Windber Borough. One absent, Mr. Bryan. Motion carried.

Approval Payroll A motion was made by Mr. Mash and seconded by Mr. LaMonaca to approve payroll for March 2, 2018. One absent, Mr. Bryan. Motion carried.

Approval Bills A motion was made by Mr. Mash and seconded by Mr. Holden to approve bills for February 2018. One absent, Mr. Bryan. Motion carried.

- Unfinished Business** Mr. Holden asked if a strobe light was going to put on the truck? Mrs. Gates said yes, we are waiting on Team Force for the strobe light.
- Cash Bal./ Treasurer Report** There were no questions on the Cash Balance or Treasurer's Report. Mrs. Gates told council that a copy of the 2017 Audit Report was in front of each one of them. She said there were no findings and we had a good clean audit. We also had a Liquid Fuels Audit for 2016 which also concluded very well.
- Mrs. Gates said if anyone has any questions upon reviewing them to please let her know at the next meeting.
- Council Liaisons** There were no reports other than Mr. Holden mentioned that the Municipal Authority will now be meeting on the third Thursday of the month.
- Mayor's Report** Mayor Penrod said he did not have anything to report. He did remind council that the Cash Bash will be March 24, at the American Legion proceeds to sponsor the Windber Borough Economic Development Committee.
- Chief Frear told council, a story was done regarding the installation of a drug drop off box which has been placed at the Windber Police Station. This is for anyone that has old or used prescriptions drugs at home to be discarded. There is a sign that says what they will accept and not accept. Every three months the DA's Office will take it, weigh it and give them the weight and he will report that back to Rite Aid.
- Manager's Report** **Code Enforcement Officer**-Anson Bloom will start on March 19th. His schedule will be Monday, Wednesday and Friday of each week. Tyler Fisher will help acclimate him on the 19th and 21st. We expect good things to happen with this hire.
- Public Works** - The new truck has been outfitted and is working. The 2004 F-350 has had the titled transferred and the sale amount of \$2,656.56 has been deposited in the general fund. I expect to have four bids for an air compressor, jack hammer and trash pump by the March 13th meeting.
- Recreation Park Road Paving**- Quaker Sales assures me that paving will begin shortly after the asphalt plant opens for the year. This will easily meet the bid specification of completion one week before the Memorial Day weekend.
- 2018 Borough Road Paving** - I have been assessing the situation throughout the Borough and if we can receive estimates from Penn DOT in a timely fashion, will have options available to you by our April 10th meeting. Again, the driver behind this being receiving a better price early in the paving season.
- Grant Opportunity** - I have a phone conference scheduled with Patrick Meese for March 9th.
- Recreation Park Ballroom**- The WMA will construct an American Disabilities Act compliant ramp and restroom at this facility and absorb all construction costs. The Borough will cover the expense for the building permit.

Auditor General's Office Annual Audit - This took place in our office on March 6th. The audit passed with flying colors. Kudos to Robin for keeping our financial records in exemplary fashion.

Levee - I am working with EADS to prepare a bid packet for sediment removal in Paint Creek and will advertise for bids contingent on grant approval. We are also continuing to go through the proper channels to decommission Pipe 19, in the flood control project.

769 Railroad Street- The Zoning Appeals Board meet in regards to the Maffeo's violation of the Borough Zoning Ordinance, on March 8th at 7:00 p.m. Attorney Green and I will meet with the defendant's legal counsel at 5:30 p.m., prior to the meeting.

Mrs. Gates said that Keith Vasas from our planning commission would like to attend a municipal planning conference regarding planning commissions and the cost is \$50. The conference is April 18, 2018. Mr. Vasas is asking council for their permission for him to attend and to pay the \$50 fee.

A motion was made by Mr. Holden and seconded by Mr. LaMonaca to approve Mr. Vasas to attend the Municipal Conference on Planning Commission and pay the \$50 fee for the conference. One absent, Mr. Bryan, motion carried.

Mr. Spinos said that Mr. Furmanchik did receive quotes for the public works equipment he spoke about at the last meeting. Since he is not here he will give that report to council at the April meeting.

Solicitor's Report

Solicitor Green said we had the Zoning Hearing Board convene last Thursday. Unfortunately they continued the hearing due to a technical violation of the application for the hearing. We will hopefully have it within the next two to three weeks.

The owners admit to there being between 30 and 50 animals on the property. He has heard there are at least 30 to 50 goats on the property.

Mayor Penrod said with the amount of animals the Humane Society receives from time to time is there not an ordinance or resolution on how many animals residents are allowed to have. Mr. Green said they admit to 8 dogs but he has heard there are as many as 12 dogs on this property. Mrs. Gates said there are a number of dogs you can have before you are considered a Kennel and need a license. Ms. Denk in the office knows what that number is.

Mayor Penrod said there should be a yearly registration for these animals or is there anything we can do locally.

Solicitor Green said they started off with a few animals and have disabled children and called these pets therapy pets. He said last year there were only about 6 animals there and then during the summer it began to stink and was attracting flies. They got permits and put up a privacy fence so you can't see in. He said he doesn't know if the animals were breeding or if they kept taking more in. They said they rescued some of the animals. Our Zoning Ordinance is black and white.

Agricultural animals are allowed in conservancy districts. The borough went to the expense of having the property surveyed. The conservancy line was there and a little corner of their property is in the conservancy but their property is this big. Mr. Spinos said some of the neighbors were at the hearing and what is happening they are opening their back doors to goats standing on their back porches and smells from the animals.

Solicitor Green said it is going to be a process and we will be lucky to have it solved by mid-summer. We have to go through the process.

Next Meeting Next council meeting will be held on April 10, at 7:00 p.m.

Adjourn Mr. Spinos adjourned the meeting at 7:24 p.m.

Reopen Meeting Mr. Spinos reopened the meeting at 7:26 p.m.

Visitors Mr. Rick Roberts through a telephone conversation asked council for permission to tap in a sewage line from Richland Township in to Windber borough. He will have a concession stand with Restrooms built at the little league property. Remarks: Solicitor Green asked Mr. Roberts if he would be providing the drawings and Mr. Roberts said yes.

A motion was made by Mr. LaMonaca and seconded by Mr. Mash to approve Mr. Roberts request for a tap in. One absent, Mr. Bryan, motion carried.

Adjourn Meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m. by Council Vice President, James Spinos

Respectfully Submitted By:

Robin S. Gates
Financial Secretary